

114 W Maple Street, Plattsburg, MO, 64477. PO Box 243, Rock Port, MO, 64482. The funding would be used for the construction of drinking water transmission lines. Located in the STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure projects account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Kansas City Bus Capital Funds, KC, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is the KC Area Transportation Authority located at 1200 E. 18th Street, KC, MO 64108. This funding is for the purchase of new busses. Located in the Busses and Bus Facilities account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the U.S. 59/Alabama Grade Separation Project in St. Joseph, MO in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is the City of St. Joseph's Public Works Department located at 1100 Frederick Ave. St. Joseph, MO 64501. The funding will be used to reduce congestion at US 59 crossing Woods Chapel Road from 1–70 to Valley View. Located in the Interstate Maintenance Discretionary account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Homeless Shelter Renovation, Kansas City, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is Restart Inc. located at 918 E. 9th Street Kansas city, MO 64106. The funding will be used to provide shelter and supportive services to homeless men, women, youth, and families. Located in the Economic Development Initiative account.

Description of Request: I am requesting funding for the Expansion of the Hillyard Vocational Technical Center, St. Joseph, MO project in fiscal year 2009. The entity receiving funding is the St. Joseph, MO School District located at 925 Felix, St. Joseph, MO 64501. The funding will be used to build a science research facility addition to Hillyard Vocational Technical Center. Located in the Economic Development Initiative account.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of [H.R. 1105 Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009]:

Request Member: Congressman DOUG LAMBORN, CO–05.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Colorado Department of Transportation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 4201 Arkansas Ave #275/ Denver, CO 80222.

Description of Request: \$652,650 is included in this bill to help accelerate intersection improvements at Fort Carson Gates 5 and 6 as well as safety improvements along SH 115 between these two gates.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105.

Account: FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways).

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Colorado Department of Transportation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 4201 Arkansas Ave #275/ Denver, CO 80222.

Description of Request: \$2,280,000 is included in this bill to pay for preliminary and final design for full access to Peterson Air Force Base from Powers Boulevard. Peterson Air Force Base has recently completed improvements to its west gate, which is the main access point into the base from Powers Boulevard. This will address mobility and future congestion at the Powers Boulevard intersection by providing an interchange.

HONORING MR. RAY CLARK

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Ray Clark for his years of service to the Plant City community and to the students at Plant City High School.

Mr. Clark began his tenure teaching agriculture at Plant City High in 1972, before I was even born. He taught agriculture for 36 years at Plant City and retired as the head of the agriculture department.

He has shared his extensive knowledge of agriculture with thousands of students throughout the years and has left a significant mark on Plant City and the agriculture community in the State of Florida.

Mr. Clark has encouraged his students to participate in the FFA organization. Assisted by his leadership, the Plant City FFA chapters have produced 5 National FFA Officers and 17 State FFA Officers.

In addition to his dedication to the students at Plant City, Ray Clark has selflessly devoted countless hours to the community, participating in a variety of organizations—from the Hillsborough County Classroom Teachers Association to the National Wild Turkey Federation to the Florida Cattleman's Association. He is also a former member of the National Guard.

Ray Clark has been an outstanding public servant to our city and the State of Florida. I want to thank him for his service, and invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Ray Clark upon the occasion of his retirement. I wish him a long and happy retirement.

DR. DIETHER H. HAENICKE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the illustrious life of Dr. Diether H. Haenicke, president emeritus and distinguished professor at Western Michigan University.

From 1985 to 1998, Diether served as the University's fifth president, while later serving as interim president for the 2006–07 academic year. During his 13-year presidency, WMU emerged as one of the leading public research institutions in the nation, becoming a pioneer in the life sciences. A lifelong champion of international study, the University's Office of Study Abroad and Department of Foreign Languages flourished during his tenure as well. At

the same time, the University also conducted a successful multi-million dollar capital campaign that allowed for the construction of many major buildings across campus as well as the major renovation of several others.

Shortly after retiring from the presidency in 1998, Diether began writing a popular weekly column in the Kalamazoo Gazette, which continued for over 10 years. The subject matter of his column ranged broadly from reflections on his childhood in Germany and his experiences as a naturalized citizen to commentaries on current events and musings on the absurdities of campus life. Like the man himself, these writings often gave the community a moment of pause.

Not only a successful administrator, but a widely respected intellectual in his own right, Diether came to the United States as a Fulbright lecturer in the early 1960s. Having earned a doctorate, magna cum laude, from the University of Munich in 1962, he was the author of hundreds of published works on such diverse matters as comparative literature, history, academic administration, and international study.

In his so-called retirement, Diether remained actively engaged within the University and also involved himself in countless civic and charitable organizations throughout southwest Michigan.

There truly was no better friend to the University and the greater Kalamazoo community than Diether. And while his intellect, humor, and constant guidance will be sorely missed, perhaps the qualities that will be remembered most were his genuine approachability and astonishing gift for friendship. Throughout his career, thousands were fortunate enough to look to Diether as a friend and mentor—incoming first-year students and Members of Congress alike.

May the Haenicke family find comfort in knowing the far-reaching impact that Diether had upon his community and those who were attracted by the university he built up. American higher education has lost one of the best and so have we all lost a supporter of the greater good.

THE STUDENT PROTECTION ACT

HON. ADAM H. PUTMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTMAN. Madam Speaker, on January 28, 2009, I reintroduced the Student Protection Act, a measure aimed at protecting our nation's classrooms from repeat sexual predators within our school systems.

The Student Protection Act requires uniform reporting requirements for eligible school system employees accused of sexual misconduct against a student, consistent with established guidelines for reporting child abuse; it requires a central body in each state to be responsible for receiving and investigating allegations of sexual misconduct by school employees; and it creates a nationwide database of school employees sanctioned by the state for sexual misconduct—thus enabling state, local, and private school officials to ensure offenders remain out of the classroom.

Accounts of teacher sexual misconduct have inundated headlines across our country. In 2004, a study required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 reported that an estimated 4.5 million children are subject to sexual misconduct by a school employee sometime between kindergarten and 12th grade—that's nearly 1 in 10 students that are targets of sexual misconduct during their school career. As far as I'm concerned, that's one too many.

Further, a 2007 seven-month Associated Press investigation found a total of 2,570 educators across the nation were punished for sexual misconduct from 2001–2005, representing about a quarter of all educator misconduct cases in that time period.

More than a dozen states have considered legislation to strengthen laws for screening and reporting of sexual misconduct by educators last year—many of which became law. However, without adopting systematic policies and procedures at the national level all states remain vulnerable when hiring school employees from states with mediocre reporting procedures and lackluster ethical standards. Our classrooms deserve much more than a piecemeal effort that leaves our nation's schools exposed to predators moving from state to state.

Ernie Allen, President and CEO of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children said, "This Act brings long-overdue recognition to the problem of child sexual exploitation in the school system."

It is abundantly clear that the system we have in place has failed our students—repeatedly. Before we read about another teacher assaulting yet another student or another classroom shaken by another breach of trust, now—not later—let us give schools the tools they need to keep repeat sexual offenders from preying on students within the very institutions that should be a safe-haven for our children.

We have a unique opportunity before us to empower educators and parents nationwide and make it crystal clear we will not allow those who would prey on young, vulnerable minds to compromise the integrity of our school system and tarnish an honorable profession. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation, ensuring the safety of our children.

IN MEMORY OF BETHEA R. HOOK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on February 17th, Mr. Bethea R. Hook of Lexington County, South Carolina passed away. Mr. Hook was a cherished member of his community, and spent his lifetime in service to his country and his neighbors as a member of the Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church, president of the Church Council, a Sunday School Superintendent, and scout master of Boy Scout Troup No. 356 to name just a few of his many accomplishments. He was a leader in his community as the owner of Hook's Flowers and vital to the establishment of the U.S. Highway 1 Flea Market. He was also an active member and former president of the Woodmen of the World.

He answered the call of his generation and served as a Navy Chief Boatswain's Mate dur-

ing World War II and went on to be an advocate for his fellow veterans as Commander of the American Legion Post No. 7.

At this time, our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Hook's family—including his wife of 62 years, Margie Eargle Hook, his sons, Norman Bethea Hook and Richard Jefferson Hook, his daughter, Myra Darlene Kinard, and his three grandchildren, Tradd Bethea Hook, Ashley Ann Hook, and Richard Tyler Hook.

COMMENDING MR. GARY STILTS

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Gary Stilts, Wappapello Lake Operations Manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Stilts is retiring this week after a long and distinguished career of more than 30 years of federal service. Nearly 28 of those years have been in the service of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Wappapello Lake in the Eighth Congressional District.

During his time at Wappapello, Mr. Stilts has dramatically improved public access to the natural resources offered at the lake, and he has forged key local partnerships that enabled the placement of fishing piers, access points, and a fish cleaning station at the lake. Major flood control improvements and an important transportation infrastructure project have been implemented at Wappapello Lake during his term of service as well.

The remarkable thing about Mr. Stilts has been his ability to make Wappapello Lake a true member of the local community. The lake is important to families, for recreation, and to businesses, for the tourism it draws. Under Mr. Stilts's leadership, Wappapello Lake twice won the Natural Resources Project of the Year Award, in 1999 and again in 2008.

In a district with as many acres of fields, forests and, yes, lakes, as the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri, good stewardship is at the pinnacle of importance. Mr. Stilts has left his mark on Wappapello Lake and the surrounding area by first and foremost being a good steward. His hard work and good advocacy for Wappapello Lake have made it an important fixture on the list of the very best natural resources in our state. I wish him the best in his retirement and thank him for his excellent service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and to the citizens of the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri.

THE STUDENT INTERNET SAFETY ACT

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on January 28, 2009, I introduced the Student Internet Safety Act, legislation that would provide our Nation's schools more leeway in teaching children about the dangers associated with predators on the Internet.

Everyday, children and teens alike rely on the internet for multiple resources. Whether it's

research for a school project, visiting an online social network such as Facebook or Myspace, or checking movie times for a local theater, our Nation's youth remains increasingly active online and it is paramount that they are aware of the potential risks of online predators and know how to stay safe online.

While many parents continue to educate their children about the importance of online safety, this is an important message that our schools should have the ability to reinforce as well. Currently, school districts that receive grants under the Ed Tech Program and the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program from the U.S. Department of Education may use the Federal funds for a wide variety of authorized activities, such as drug and violence prevention activities, establishing and maintaining a school safety hotline, or developing, enhancing, or implementing information technology courses.

The Student Internet Safety Act would expand the list of authorized activities to allow schools to develop and implement programs that promote the safe use of the Internet by students, such as programs that educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with individuals on social networking Web sites and in chat rooms; protect students against online predators, cyberbullying, or unwanted exposure to inappropriate material; or promote involvement by parents in the use of the Internet by their children.

I am encouraged by the support this legislation has received both locally and nationally as well. Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd stated, "All of us must take a proactive action to teach our kids how to stay safe online. This legislation takes important steps to make this happen. Nothing is more important to our communities' future than the safety and well being of our children." In addition, Ernie Allen, President and CEO of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children said, "The internet holds tremendous potential for our Nation's youth. But we must educate young people about how to prevent online victimization so they may have safer experiences online."

Given the vital role the Internet plays in schools across the Nation, the Student Internet Safety Act would give schools the ability to educate their students about staying safe in a rapidly growing online community. We teach our children how to look both ways before crossing the street; we also need to teach them the safety rules for the information superhighway.

I welcome the support of my colleagues and look forward to working together to ensure the safety of our children from the dangers associated with predators on the Internet.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARTHA SCOTT SMITH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 23, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this Thursday, February 26th, the Palmetto Society of United Way of the Midlands will be honoring their Humanitarian of the Year Award recipient Martha Scott Smith. Martha is State Director for AT&T—Public Affairs in South Carolina and an extraordinary